

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /124 W

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R 091431Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1532

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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1. ACTING HEAD OF USA DIVISION OF MFA, KOMPLEKTOV, AND DCM BRIEFLY TOUCHED ON SUBJECT OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S RESIGNATION DURING CALL BY DCM AT THE MINISTRY ON ANOTHER NATTER AUGUST 9. IN A RATHER SERIOUS VEIN, KOMPLEKTOV, WHO HAD JUST BEEN WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER KUZNETSOV, SAID THAT, LOOKING AT U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS IN GENERAL, THE MAIN CONCERN OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT AT THE PRESENT TIME IS THAT THE DIRECTION OF BILATERAL RELATIONS SET FORTH IN RECENT YEARS BE CONTINUED.

2. IN RESPONSE, DCM EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT CONTINUITY WOULD BE THE HALLMARK OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, INCLUDING RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THIS CONTINUITY ALREADY DEMONSTRATED BY PRESIDENT FORD'S REQUEST THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER CONTINUE IN OFFICE. SECONDLY, ALTHOUGH THERE MAY BE SOME DIFFERENCE OF VIEW ON THE SHAPE AND SUBSTANCE OF DETENTE, THE POLICY OF NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION HAS WIDE SUPPORT WITHIN CONGRESS AND AMONG THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. WITH RESPECT TO CONGRESS, DCM CALLED ATTENTION TO RECENT STATEMENTS OF SENATORS MANSFIELD AND SCOTT. FINALLY, AND MOST IMPORTANT, PRESIDENT FORD, IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS HAD GIVEN FIRM AND FULL SUPPORT TO THE POLICY OF NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE

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SOVIET UNION.

3. DCM LATER FURNISHED KOMPLEKTOV WITH WIRELESS BULLETIN
PROFILE OF PRESIDENT FORD WHICH INCLUDED FOLLOWING
QUOTATION FROM ONE OF PRESIDENT FORD'S STATEMENTS ON
DETENTE: "I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT DETENTE HAS BEEN
VERY, VERY BENEFICIAL. ENDING THE COLD WAR BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION HAS GIVEN US MANY
OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE NOT ONLY THOSE RELATIONSHIPS
BUT ALSO WORLD PROBLEMS." KOMPLEKTOV'S ATTENTION WAS
DRAWN TO THIS PARTICULAR QUOTATION.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: cunninfx
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